



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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8/13/03

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Inventor Application of:
Iok-Hou Pang

Serial No.: 09/856,987 (Conf. No. 6461)

Filed: May 25, 2001

For: USE OF NEUROTROPHIC FACTOR
STIMULATORS FOR THE
TREATMENT OF OPHTHALMIC
NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

Group Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: Z. Fay

Atty. Dkt. No.: 1719F US

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as First- Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

12 August 2003
Date

Barbara McKenzie

Name

Barbara McKenzie
Signature

**AMENDMENT and RESPONSE TO OFFICE
ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 13, 2003**

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the Official Action mailed February 13, 2003, for which the three-month date for response was May 13, 2003.

A request for a three-month extension of time to respond is included herewith along with the required fee. This three-month extension will bring the due date to August 13, 2003, which is within the six-month statutory period. Should such request or fee be deficient or absent, consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 from Alcon Laboratories Deposit Account No. 01-0682.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.